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HALIFAX • TUESDAY, APRIL 21, 2009

metronews.ca

Celeb Buzz



Mel Gibson
headed to
church
for help

pg 14

Prince Andrew to visit Halifax troops

CITADEL A real prince is rolling into Halifax this Thursday, and it's not the R&B artist responsible for Purple Rain.

It's Prince Andrew, the Duke of York and colonel-in-chief of The Princess Louise Fusiliers. He's stopping by the Halifax Citadel at 7 p.m. to check out the regiment's trooping of the colour, the Department of National Defence announced Sunday. The ceremony will take place at the Halifax Armoury if the weather is bad.

The department describes trooping the colour "as part of preparation before battle, so that all members of a regiment would be able to recognize the flags which marked the rallying points."

METRO HALIFAX



A hijacked CanJet plane sits on the runway at a Jamaican airport overnight Sunday. All 174 passengers and eight crew members walked off hijacked Flight 918 unharmed.

Hijacking
hits home
at Halifax
airport

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE
 for Metro Halifax

JAMAICA To say Dawn Way was worried about the safety of her friends aboard CanJet Flight 918 is an understatement.

"Your heart goes out to them," Way, a customer service agent at Halifax Stanfield International Airport, said while taking a brief break from work yesterday morning.

"Not only for the crew, but as well for the passengers ... you look for the safety of all the souls that are onboard."

Way spent about five years working for CanJet before moving to WestJet in 2006, but called everyone who works at the airport "a large family."

She said she knows the pilot who was supposed to fly the hijacked plane, and one of the flight attendants.

"Everybody supports everyone else — especially when things like this happen," she said.

Janice Stephenson of Halifax was at the airport yesterday seeing her daughter off on a trip to Australia.

"It certainly makes you more aware," she said. "But something like that, you could never predict."

Hilary Stephenson, 26, said it's strange that the gunman got through security, especially with all the tough rules for passengers these days.

"I'm not allowed to bring my hand cream," she pointed out.

EARTH DAY: APRIL 22

GoGreen

In honour of Earth Day on Wednesday, Metro is providing you with ways you can go green and lessen your environmental footprint.



TODAY **HEALTH.** Greening your sex life: Some eco-friendly ways to make love better. Page 11

ENTERTAINMENT. How the music industry is making the effort to go green. Page 12

COMMENTS. U.S. President bold on cap and trade. Page 6

EARTH DAY **GOING GREEN.** Metro marks Earth Day with its special Green issue.

ShareYourViews

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Terror on CanJet

174 passengers held hostage as man storms plane in Jamaica

KRISTEN LIPSCOMBE
 for Metro Halifax

A harrowing hostage situation aboard a CanJet plane at a Jamaican airport ended peacefully yesterday, the Halifax airline confirmed.

Kent Woodside, vice-president and general manager of CanJet Airlines, said all 174 passengers and eight crew members walked off hijacked Flight 918 unharmed.

The gunman released most travellers not long after forcing his way through security and onto the plane, but six crewmembers were held for hours before being

"Everybody's crying and shaking and scared. We're all praying to God, let this be over."

Brenda Grenier of Dartmouth

freed yesterday morning by anti-terrorism officers, who also arrested the assailant. The Jamaican government identified him as Stephen Fray of Montego Bay, a mentally challenged man in his early 20s.

"Our priority is now to provide comfort and support to the passengers and crew who were involved in this ordeal," Woodside said.

He said the armed man boarded the Boeing 737-800 at 11:30 p.m. Atlantic time Sunday at Sangster In-

ternational Airport in Montego Bay. The charter flight for Transat Tours had flown from Halifax earlier and was set to stop in Santa Clara, Cuba before heading back to Canada. It was supposed to land at 7:15 a.m., according to the Halifax Stanfield International Airport's website.

"I'd like to praise the professionalism and bravery of our crew, who, while trained to deal with serious incidents, would have hoped never to have to deal with this reality,"

Woodside said.

Crew members included Capt. James Murphy, Air-Care security officer Garry Knickle and flight attendants Nicole Rogers and Heidi Tofflemire, all of Halifax, CanJet said.

Passengers included Brenda Grenier of Dartmouth, who told CTV News that the armed man forced the pilot out of the plane before firing a shot.

"Everybody's crying and shaking and scared," she recalled. "We're all praying to God, let this be over."

Another CanJet plane was en route to Montego Bay yesterday afternoon to pick up passengers. The crew was expected to fly back separately.

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Bruce Campbell, executive director of the Canadian Centre for Police Alternatives, is speaking at Saint Mary's University Thursday at 6 p.m. The event will take place in Room 265 of the Sobeys Management Building, with topics including the global economic crisis and Canada-U.S. relations. **METRO HALIFAX**

Local

Extra show

A second show to see Country Music Hall of Fame member Bill Anderson at Casino Nova Scotia has been added after his show on Saturday, May 9 sold out. The second date is for Friday, May 8. Tickets are \$30.75, which includes taxes and service charges. Phone 451-1221 or visit ticketatlantic.com. **METRO HALIFAX**



Policing conference ends today

CRIME Police chiefs and other high-ranking officials from 19 countries have come to Halifax for an international police conference about the changing world of law enforcement.

About 200 delegates are here for the three-day conference, ending today, designed to help senior police officials trade tips and learn from successes.

The conference features sessions and lectures on a wide range of topics, including managing for the future and the evolving needs of policing going forward. **METRO HALIFAX**

Missing woman found safe

FOUND A Dartmouth woman missing since April 9 has been found safe and sound. Thirty-nine-year-old Tracy Lynn Cooper left a family home where she had been staying in Dartmouth. She was seen by a family member on Portland Street on the 11th, but had not been seen or heard from since. She was reported missing to police April 15, but Halifax Regional Police said yesterday she was located in Dartmouth Friday evening. **METRO HALIFAX**

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Video Hostages freed from a CanJet flight in Jamaica recount their experience at metronews.ca/canada

Blogs Kenya Hunt takes note of the latest person to embrace Michael Jackson fashion: Michael Jackson

Mourning tragic end

Metro Transit driver takes own life following dismissal

PAUL MCLEOD
paul.mcleod@metronews.ca

The flag outside the Metro Transit office was at half-mast yesterday.

It was one of many expressions of grief for Dann Little, a bus driver who became briefly famous only to tragically take his own life this past weekend.

Last month Little became somewhat of a news celebrity when he clubbed a fake seal prop used by sealing protestors on Spring Garden Road. Little

apologized and initially got a suspension for the incident.

But last Friday Little learned he had been fired due to the seal incident and two workplace complaints. The next day he hung himself at his family home in Middle Sackville.

"My husband was a great person, a wonderful father and he would do anything for anybody," wife Andrea Little told TV reporters yesterday.

Little's family said he was afraid to tell his employer that he was on anti-depressants, and was undergoing tests for a blocked artery leading to his brain. They said he was saving his sick days in case an operation was needed.

Little had been a recognizable face for Metro Transit for about three years. He had a goatee that he often died different colours, from



Metro Transit buses line up on Barrington Street in Halifax yesterday. The Metro Transit community is in mourning after a driver who was fired last Friday took his own life the next day.

purple to pink to green.

A Facebook group has provided many with an outlet for mourning. The comments paint a picture of a man with a strong sense of humour, always willing to help out others.

"I always got on your bus

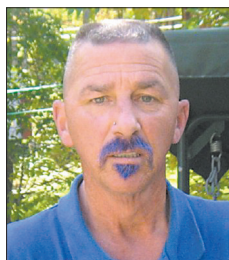
almost every day and you always made me laugh," reads one comment.

"You were always there to help the new people. I appreciated that and will miss your laughter," posts a colleague.

Metro Transit issued a brief statement yesterday saying they extend their sympathies to Little's friends and coworkers, but wouldn't be commenting further out of respect to the family.

"You were always there to help the new people. I appreciated that and will miss your laughter."

Metro Transit colleague



Dann Little is pictured in this photo from a Facebook memorial page created to honour his passing.

Union was set to fight for Little's job

TRAGEDY Dann Little's union president said Little had an excellent chance to beat the firing and probably would have had his punishment reduced to a suspension.

Little found out on Friday he was being fired, one day before he took his own life. But the union was "very confident" he would be back, according to Dan MacDonald, president of the Amalgamated Transit Union Local 508.

"Our legal team had indicated to us that their feeling was we had a very good, strong case to win," said MacDonald, who added Little was aware of this opinion.

Little was fired for a high-profile incident involving disrupting a seal hunt protest, as well as two workplace complaints.

"Everybody has a moment of bad judgment," MacDonald said. "It was a rough incident. It deserves some punishment, but to terminate a person's job, personally I don't think that's justified."

**PAUL MCLEOD/
METRO HALIFAX**

Halifax remembers Holocaust

JON TATTIE
for Metro Halifax

MEMORIAL Today is Holocaust Memorial Day and Haligonians will join people around the world in remembering the genocide generations have pledged to never let happen again.

Events in the Halifax Regional Municipality will focus on a survivor's talk at 8 p.m. in Pier 21 and a me-

morial reading of names in Victoria Park.

"If we teach the history of the Holocaust — how it happened, why it happened and where it happened — there's a chance the new generations will learn from that and it will never happen again, to any group," explains Jon Goldberg, executive director of the Atlantic Jewish Council.

"It was the height of man's inhumanity toward man," Goldberg said. "Unfortunately, things continue like that today. Not necessarily in the same gross amount, but there are holocausts in Africa."

Max Eisen will speak at the free public event at Pier 21. Born in Czechoslovakia in 1929, he and his family were deported to Auschwitz-Birkenau in 1944. The then-15-year-old was imprisoned there from May until January 1945. His parents, grandparents, two younger brothers and

baby sister died.

Eisen survived three death marches before being liberated by American soldiers on May 6, 1945. Eisen moved to Canada in 1949.

"Most people are profoundly effected," Goldberg says. "For a lot of people, it happened so many years ago, but when young people are confronted with these stories of what happened to Mr. Eisen and his family, it's just an unbelievable thing."

There will also be artwork by Nova Scotian Lynn Rotin.

From noon until 3 p.m., people will gather to read the names of the Holocaust victims at Victoria Park near the Public Gardens.

"Six million is a number. There are so many people who died that have no relatives, so we read their names. The idea is that we'll never forget," Goldberg says.

Spring Tulip beds get fluffed



Elizabeth Missons, left, and Mandy MacLean, gardeners for the HRM, fluff up the tulip beds in Grand Parade yesterday.



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Geology prof receives grant

A geology professor from Saint Mary's University is a recipient of a 2009 mineral research grant from the United States Geological Survey worth about \$60,000. Geology professor Dr. Jaroslav Dostal will use the money to help investigate uranium and rare-earth element deposits in southeastern Alaska. **METRO HALIFAX**

'Motor Mouth' hits Halifax comedy fest

JON TATTRE
for Metro Halifax

COMEDIAN The man who sounds like he swallowed a special-effects machine is a headliner for the Halifax Comedy Festival this week.

Michael Winslow, who starred as Sgt. Larvell (Motor Mouth) Jones in the Police Academy franchise, is bringing his one-man versions of Jimi Hendrix, Led Zeppelin and new-comer Louis Armstrong with him.

"This will be my first visit to Halifax and I'm looking forward to it," Winslow said at his Florida home. "We made half of the Police Academy in Toronto, so (visiting Canada) is kind of like coming home."

While Winslow has dropped off the public radar since his 1980s zenith, he's been busy globe-trotting and entertaining himself and his fans with new sounds. Talking as he unpacked from a three-city tour in Florida hot on the heels of a working visit to



Winslow

New Zealand. Winslow said he's focusing on music and children's entertainment when he's not bringing the noise to comedy shows.

He was especially excited about project he's working on with Bill Cosby.

"He was really cool. He convinced me to tell classic stories, but put noises in them. It figures it would take Dr. Cosby to figure this out," Winslow laughed.

He's hoping to release a new music CD this summer (check out Michaelwinslow.net for a sample) and there's talk of a Police Academy 8.

Halifax fans can expect to be blown away by his machine-guns, electric guitars and air planes. "I've put a lot of music in this show. I want to make sure folks have a great time because, basically, our job is to help people forget about the rent."

Winslow is performing at Casino Nova Scotia tonight at 8 p.m., Thursday at 8 p.m. and at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium Saturday at 8 p.m.

Teacher pension woes lead to index nixing

PENSION PLANS Teachers who retired after Aug. 1, 2006 will not receive indexing this year due to pension troubles.

The Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Plan has fallen to a 70.8 funding level — far below the 90 per cent cut off for indexing. The level represents over \$1 billion of unfunded liability.

Most teachers who retired prior to Aug. 1, 2006 are not affected. They will receive indexing beginning in July at a rate of the Consumer Price Index minus one per cent.

But according to the 2005 agreement between the province and the union, pensioners who retired af-

ter the summer of 2006 can't get indexing until the plan is at least 90 per cent funded.

The province will make a contribution to the Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Fund equal to the actuarial value of indexing not paid. The amount is estimated at \$3.5 million.

The Nova Scotia Teachers' Pension Trustee said that while things are bad, they could have been worse. The Nova Scotia plan had an investment return of negative 16.8 per cent for the 2008 calendar year.

The Trustee said Canada's biggest pensions averaged an investment of negative 18.4 per cent. **METRO HALIFAX**

News in brief

TRAFFICKING Three men are facing possession for the purpose of trafficking charges after police officers seized cocaine, cash and drug paraphernalia from a south-end Halifax home Friday evening. Halifax Regional Police said they searched an apartment on the block of 1200 Church St. just after 6 p.m. They arrested a 35-year-old and 38-year-old inside and then arrested a 31-year-old during a nearby traffic stop. The accused were all in court over the weekend.

DRUGS A 41-year-old Lower Sackville man is charged with possession for the purpose of trafficking after the Mounties searched three homes across the municipality Friday afternoon, turning up three kilograms of hashish. Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers with the federal drug unit used a police dog to check residences on Raymond Street in Dartmouth, Smokey Drive in Lower Sackville and Sackville Drive in Middle Sackville, a police news release said. **METRO HALIFAX**



Three people were injured yesterday, including a toll booth worker, after a truck slammed into a toll booth on the Cobequid Pass.

Crash injures three

Toll booth employee air-lifted to hospital following collision

A toll booth worker air-lifted to hospital in Halifax following a collision at the Cobequid Pass is a Bass River resident and well-known figure in Truro sports circles.

Commissionaire Stuart (Stu) Mills was collecting tolls at the Pass shortly after 11 a.m. yesterday when a five-tonne truck slammed into the booth he was working in.

Although his identity has not officially been released, the Truro Daily News has learned he is Mills, who serves as vice-president of Truro Minor Lacrosse.

He was also nominated in February for a Truro Sport Heritage Society award.

Two other people, including the truck driver and an on-site construction worker, were transported by ambulance to Colchester Regional Hospital in Truro with non-life-threatening injuries.

A witness at the scene said the truck took out half a dozen concrete traffic barriers before shearing off the side of the building attached to the booth.

Steve Sharratt, an off-duty reporter with the Charlottetown Guardian, said

the commissionaire was trapped for about 40 minutes until he was extracted by emergency crews and flown off in the Medi-Vac helicopter.

Standing beside the gruesome looking aftermath of twisted metal and shattered concrete, investigating RCMP officer Sharon Sisson said the commissionaire "was talking when he left the scene" and things could easily have been much worse for a lot more people.

The identity of the truck driver was unavailable by press time, but lettering on the side of the truck show

it as being from Powa Express Trucking of Shelville, Ga.

Doreen Pippy, a passenger in the car that was stopped in the toll booth when the truck came crashing in, said she spoke with the driver after the incident and although he offered his apologies, he could not explain what happened.

Pippy told CTV News she believed the driver had fallen asleep.

Sisson said she was waiting to speak with the truck driver for his version of events.

TRURO DAILY NEWS

Students suffer serious sleep problems: Study

SCHOOL College student Anastasia Works has heavy eyelids.

"I don't get a lot of sleep," Works said. "I work until midnight. So, by the time I get all my homework done, it's about two o'clock when I go to bed."

The Nova Scotia Agricultural College student has a full course load and is one shift short of a full-time job. End-of-year exams and projects have kept Works busy for the past couple weeks.

"I've probably not been sleeping as much as I should, just because I've been pushing extra, just to get this all done, on top of work."

In addition, Works sometimes has trouble drifting off at night.

"A lot of the time, when I work, I'm exhausted

enough that I just pass out," she said. "But other times, if I have a lot of homework to do and I'm busy with work, I'm stressed and I stay up rolling around in bed and I don't sleep well."

And she's not alone.

Researchers at Flinders University in South Australia studied 81 high school students and found that 95 per cent of them had at least one type of sleeping problem. Taking a long time to fall asleep, not getting enough sleep and having inconsistent bedtimes were the most common complaints.

During the study, 60 per cent of students said they needed 30 minutes or more to fall asleep and 35 per cent said they were tired during the day.

TRURO DAILY NEWS

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Canada's unionized autoworkers can either accept pay cuts and other concessions or lose their jobs, Industry Minister Tony Clement said matter-of-factly yesterday, emphasizing that the future of the Big Three automakers hinges on the CAW and the companies reaching a deal this week. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Canada



Raising donation awareness

Yesterday was the start of National Organ and Tissue Donation Awareness Week. The organization is trying to bring the issue of organ donation to young people with an initiative that features a \$1-million advertising campaign aimed at 15- to 24-year-olds and includes a new website, RecycleMe.org, which contains videos of people talking about how the issue of organ donation touched their lives. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Female jumpers get day in court

NAFTA can be tweaked: U.S.

VANCOUVER
2010 Games

KRISTEN THOMPSON
Metro Canada

In a way, it's a catch-22 that's keeping the world's top female ski jumpers from getting to compete in the 2010 Olympics, the lawyer representing 15 jumpers argued in B.C. Supreme Court yesterday.

Ross Clark, who was speaking during the first day of a discrimination hearing against VANOC, said generations of girls have been discouraged



American ski jumper Lindsey Van, centre, flanked by Canadian jumper Zoya Lynch and Women's Ski Jumping USA president Deedee Corradini, outside B.C. Supreme Court yesterday.

from pursuing a career as ski jumpers because their

sport has never been recognized in the Olympics.

In 2006, the IOC voted against including women's ski jumping in 2010, saying there haven't been enough world championships, and there aren't enough competing women to justify the sport's inclusion.

"Historical prejudices have meant there were few competitions, but it's the lack of competitions that the IOC is using as its justification for barring the women," Clark said. "This is a hurdle they can't overcome through athleticism and determination."

Without the Olympics as a goal, there's less in-

centive for women to train at an elite level, added American jumper Lindsey Van, in response to the IOC's argument that there aren't enough women competing in the sport.

It was that sense of discouragement that pushed Whistler-based jumper Zoya Lynch to retirement this year.

"It was too hard to balance training and fighting the biggest sport organization in the world," Lynch, who is still a plaintiff, said. "If they don't allow women to compete (in 2010) a lot of (other girls) will drop out."

TRADE It is not necessary to renegotiate the North American Free Trade Agreement to honour Barack Obama's promise to add stronger labour and environmental provisions, the top U.S. trade official said yesterday.

The statement was the latest indication that Obama would not press for a full-fledged renegotiation of the trade accord.

Obama stopped in Mexico City for meetings with President Felipe Calderon on his way to the Summit of Americas last weekend in Trinidad. It was his second meeting with Calderon and followed a February trip to Ottawa to meet with Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper.

All three leaders were "of the mind that we should be looking for opportunities to strengthen NAFTA, and at an appropriate time I will be meeting with our colleagues to try to put a little more form to that," U.S. Trade Representative Ron Kirk said. **REUTERS**

Possible side-effects of texting

STUDY Is instant messaging, texting and twittering making us mean?

This was the question swirling in the wake of a study that showed the brain needs eight seconds to register social pain or virtue and produce related emotions.

Whereas physical pain, says researcher Mary Helen Immordino-Yang, is recognized almost instantly. While the study — released yesterday by the National Academy of Sciences in its Online Early Edition — did not look at instant messaging, Immordino-Yang acknowledged that its findings on the time lapse to register compassion might apply to the field of rapid

communication.

"What it suggests is that we should think seriously about certain kinds of media exposure," she said. "A young child may not know the social implications of what they are doing and seeing." It is an open question and suggests the need for further research."

"A young child may not know the social implications of what they are doing and seeing."

Mary Helen Immordino-Yang

Our brains register the pain of others as if it were our own, says Immordino-Yang, with physical pain being "felt" in one part of the cerebral cortex and social pain being "felt" in another part. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**



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4:20 Toke on the Hill



A Gatineau, Que., resident who identified himself as Mike, smokes an oversized joint on Parliament Hill in Ottawa during the annual 4:20 celebration. Thousands of revellers and marijuana activists gathered yesterday — the 20th day of the fourth month — to light up at exactly 4:20 p.m.

News in brief

POLITICS NDP Leader Jack Layton says the Tory government owes it to Canadians to cushion the recession's devastating blow by making improvements to Employment Insurance.

SASKATCHEWAN A Regina teenager convicted of killing a Good Samaritan on Boxing Day, 2006, will serve his time in prison, not a youth facility, a judge has decided. Queen's Bench Justice Ron Barclay made the decision yesterday at a placement hearing for Nolan Royce Turcotte, 18. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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Indian prisoners launch hunger strike over cricket tournament broadcast

Hundreds of prisoners in an eastern Indian jail went on a hunger strike after authorities refused to allow inmates to watch one of India's biggest cricket tournaments on cable television. About 500 prisoners in Kolkata had requested cable television to watch the Indian Premier League. **REUTERS**

5

World



Hawking in hospital

Physicist Stephen Hawking, the author of *A Brief History of Time* who is almost completely paralyzed by motor neurone disease, has been urgently admitted to hospital, Cambridge University said yesterday. It appeared his latest illness was related to a chest infection, although no diagnosis has been released yet. **REUTERS**



A demonstrator is carried away as Iran's President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad addresses the Durban Review Conference on racism at the United Nations European headquarters in Geneva yesterday.

Anti-Israel speech at UN prompts walkouts

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad prompted a rare walkout at the United Nations yesterday when he called Israel a "cruel and repressive racist regime" in his remarks to a conference on race.

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon deplored the address which prompted dozens of delegates to leave their seats, further undermining the summit, which several Western powers are boycotting.

Their boycott left Ahmadinejad, who has in the

past cast doubt on the Nazi Holocaust, in the spotlight as the only head of state at the conference.

"Following World War Two they resorted to military aggressions to make an entire nation homeless under the pretext of Jewish suffering. And they sent migrants from Europe, the United States and other parts of the world in order to establish a totally racist government in the occupied Palestine," he said, according to the official translation.

"And in fact, in compen-

Absent nations

• Canada and Israel announced months ago it would sit out the Geneva forum. The U.S. said it would not be attending last week, prompting Australia, New Zealand, Italy, Germany, Poland and the Netherlands to follow suit.

sation for the dire consequences of racism in Europe, they helped bring to power the most cruel and repressive racist regime in Palestine." **REUTERS**

News in brief

SOMALIA Gunmen have demanded a \$1 million ransom for the release of three medical aid workers taken over the weekend in Somalia. MSF in Brussels confirmed that two male doctors from Belgium and Holland were kidnapped. A local MSF worker said a So-

malian employee had also been taken.

IRAN The lawyer representing an Iranian-American journalist jailed by Tehran for espionage said yesterday he was optimistic she would be acquitted on appeal. Roxana Saberi

was sentenced on Saturday to eight years in jail on charges of spying for the U.S. But Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad urged Tehran's general prosecutor on Sunday to ensure that the 31-year-old reporter enjoys full legal rights to defend herself. **REUTERS**

Tamil Tigers given ultimatum

COLOMBO Sri Lanka yesterday gave the Tamil Tigers 24 hours to surrender after troops breached a huge earthen defence and unleashed an exodus of tens of thousands of civilians held there by the rebels, the military said.

Sri Lanka's quarter-century separatist war has come down to a tiny strip of coastline, where the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) are making a last stand while urging a

ceasefire to protect civilians they have refused to free.

With so many civilians now outside the 17 square kilometre no-fire zone that is the only battlefield left, Sri Lanka warned LTTE founder Vellupillai Prabhakaran to surrender or face a military showdown.

The military in the past has given similar ultimatums to the LTTE and it was not clear whether passage of the deadline would

Pro-rebel account

• The pro-rebel website TamilNet.com reported hundreds of dead and wounded were still lying in two villages in the no-fire zone, and that 8,000 civilians were trapped and captured by the Sri Lankan army.

mean soldiers would immediately begin attacking. **REUTERS**

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Down with dinosaurs

NationalReport

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metronews.ca/nationalreport

"We saw the replacement of confrontation with dialogue." That was Stephen Harper lauding the work of U.S. President Barack Obama at the Summit of the Americas in Trinidad and Tobago. It marked the opening of "a new era," the prime minister said.

The president had just made overtures for new relations with Cuba and opened dialogue with another vaunted American enemy, Hugo Chavez of Venezuela. This summit followed Obama's previous extension of an olive branch

"The prime minister was wise to salute the new Obama approach. Best to leave behind any Jurassic Park ties ..."

to axis of evil member Iran. Along the way, just for good measure, the president threw in a plan to rid the world of nuclear weapons.

What is transpiring is startling. Compared to the dark ages of George W. Bush and Dick Cheney, a starker contrast could hardly be possible. President Obama is a one-man dinosaur wrecking crew. Redneck Republicans don't know what has hit them. Confrontation was their modus operandi. Animosity toward the United States was the result.

At the summit Obama noted how he was criticized for wanting to talk to enemies because it would be seen "as a sign of weakness." But, as he said, the American people didn't buy

this line of thinking. "And there's a good reason why they didn't buy it — because it doesn't make sense."

His new era of enlightenment is all the more important because there are signs that others could become a part of it.

It has frequently been noted how our own prime minister has hurt himself with his negative and excessively combative approach, a major example being the crisis he touched off in the fall over his budget update. It brought down hell on him.

But here was Harper in Port of Spain singing the praises of dialogue and singing yet again the praises of a liberal president. He was suddenly

welcoming the opening to Cuba, which is surprising for a Conservative of his ilk and took no issue with the warmth shown to Chavez.

Harper has a long way to go before he can talk of himself as a champion of diplomacy. On Russia and the Middle East he has taken a confrontational approach. On China he is only now awakening to the importance of building relations. On Guantanamo he has been silent, on nuclear proliferation, the same.

But you get the sense the new president may be having a significant impact on Harper, softening the rough edges, broadening his mind. On the weekend the prime minister was wise to salute the new Obama approach. Best to leave behind any Jurassic Park ties and get on board the big new train.

Lawrence Martin is a Globe and Mail correspondent and author who writes about national affairs from Ottawa.



MICHAEL DE ADLER

Metro Online Poll Results

81%
SAID
YES

If you're a spring grad, are you concerned about job prospects?

19%
SAID
NO

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

Views

U.S. president sets example with bold steps on cap-and-trade

NoBorders

Deborah Coyne

www.deborahcoyne.ca

U.S. President Barack Obama's proposed 2010 budget makes it clear he intends to achieve significant progress on climate change and clean energy, despite the formidable economic crisis.

The president had signalled his seriousness throughout his campaign and then with his cabinet appointments. His budget includes a wide range of concrete steps toward reducing dependence on oil; makes huge investments in clean technology, renewable energy and energy efficiency and aims at switching the transportation system to electric vehicles while increasing fuel economy standards in gas-powered vehicles.

calling the cap-and-trade proposal to reduce CO2 emissions, "a tax on everything." Sound familiar?

EARTH DAY: APRIL 22

Go Green



Predictably opposition in Congress is gearing up for battle, hysterically projecting enormous increases in gas prices at the pump and retail electricity rates, and

connect with Americans over the heads of his opposition. Bold national leadership, transparency and constructive debate seem to be too much to hope for in Canada.

Deborah Coyne ran as a Liberal candidate in the 2006 federal election and is a public policy consultant who runs canadawithoutborders.blogspot.com. Contact dmc.coyne@rogers.com.

It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: halifaxletters@metronews.ca

Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

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Union asks Obama to curb tire imports from China

The United Steelworkers union filed a petition yesterday asking President Barack Obama to restrict tire imports from China that they said were destroying the U.S. tire industry. **REUTERS**

7

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

TSX tumbles 3.3%

Oil, new U.S. bank worries spook market

Toronto's main stock index tumbled more than three per cent yesterday as investors fled the market amid a sharp drop in the price of oil and new concerns over the vitality of U.S. banks.

Nine of the TSX's 10 sectors fell, including the heavily weighted energy and financials groups, which dropped 6.5 per cent and 5.1 per cent, respectively.

The resource-rich materials group was the sole winner, adding 2.7 per cent on the day as investors sought out gold, which is considered a defensive investment.

The S&P/TSX composite index fell 311.50 points, or 3.3 per cent, to close at

Dollar down

The Canadian dollar finished yesterday at \$80.74 US, its lowest level against the U.S. dollar in a week, as investors flocked to the greenback ahead of a Bank of Canada interest rate announcement today.

9,126.15.

Bruce Latimer, a trader at Dundee Securities, said it should be remembered that the day's drop, albeit sharp, comes after six straight weeks of gains for the Toronto benchmark index.

"Most people I talk to are still in a fairly positive frame of mind," he said, adding that before yesterday,

"the market has had a good bounce off its bottom without any significant pullback."

However, new concerns began to swirl around the health of U.S. banks yesterday after Bank of America Corp. reported a surge in troubled loans, which overshadowed its better-than-expected earnings.

Bank of America shares plunged, taking with them much of the financial services sector both in Canada and the United States.

Energy issues also retreated, driven lower by a drop in the price of oil to \$45.88 US a barrel. EnCana gave up 5.1 per cent to \$52.58 Cdn and Suncor Energy dropped 7.7 per cent to \$28.90. **REUTERS**

The DAILY BUSINESS BUZZ

Halifax company to promote Canada Games:

The Canada Games Host Society has selected Halifax's Extreme Group to collaborate with the three-year branding, marketing and promotion of the 2011 Canada Winter Games.

Shellfish ban lifted:

The federal Department of Fisheries and Oceans has ended its ban on shellfish harvesting in a large portion of the Annapolis Basin.

Forestry figure dies at 62:

Federation of Nova Scotia Woodlot Owners president Stanley David Ingham passed away April 11. He was 62. Ingham was also manager of North Inverness Forest Management.

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In brief

AUTO General Motors Corp. is cutting about 1,600 salaried jobs in the United States this week as it rushes to meet a June 1 deadline to restructure under U.S. government oversight, the automaker said yesterday. **REUTERS**

Music Editing on the go



Pilotfish, which makes advanced concept phones, pictured above, yesterday unveiled plans to make an advanced music phone, hoping to tap untested demand for music editing on the go. Pilotfish said its concept will enable recording of three sound tracks and editing by twisting and bending the phone.

Coffee battle brewing

COMPETITION If you haven't tried McDonald's coffee in recent years, the company is hoping you'll give it another shot.

In a bold move that promises to heat up the morning coffee wars, McDonald's is offering customers a free morning coffee every day for the next two weeks.

That's a savings of about \$1.22 per cup, including tax, on a 10-ounce cup.

With Canadians drinking 36 million fewer cups of coffee in the last 12 months, the battle for a larger share of a declining

coffee market is heating up.

The promotion is clearly aimed at turning up the heat on market share leader Tim Hortons Inc. Perry Caicco, a financial analyst with CIBC World Markets, wrote in a note to clients.

Given that 60 per cent of Tim Hortons' sales are in the morning, and more than 50 per cent of those sales are coffee, the McDonald's giveaway could hurt its performance this quarter, Caicco cautioned investors.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Honduras.....15.9 ¢ Chile.....2.9 ¢
Panama.....3.9 ¢ Colombia.....3.9 ¢
Uruguay.....7.9 ¢ Dominican Rep.....6.9 ¢
Venezuela.....2.9 ¢ Mexico.....2.9 ¢

Middle East

Bahrain.....5.9 ¢ Kuwait.....6.9 ¢
Egypt.....14.9 ¢ Oman.....17.9 ¢
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Interest rates/Savings accounts
METRO NEWS SERVICES

Your Money

EDITOR: NINA.DRAGICEVIC@METRONWS.CA



SmartCookies



Parking tickets are a huge source of revenue for cities and private companies — not to mention a huge source of frustration for you and your bank account.

While you're required by law to pay tickets from the city, we wanted to find out if the same rules applied if you received a ticket while

parking in a private lot. Here's what we discovered. When you enter a lot, there will be posted terms and conditions. These terms and conditions will usually state that by driving into the parking lot, you agree to these provisions.

Essentially a contract is formed between you and the parking lot company. If you choose not to pay the ticket, you should be aware of the repercussions, such as the company suing you for breach of contract or passing your debt on to a collections agency.

If you dispute the ticket, because you don't agree

with certain terms and conditions that were posted in the parking lot, then theoretically a collections agency is not allowed to report your unpaid debt to credit agencies. That's a good thing, because it means your credit score will not be affected while you are trying to sort the matter out.

But keep in mind, there are some cities in which collections agencies are not restricted in the same rules, and may in fact pass on your unpaid debt to a credit agency. Once this happens, it can be difficult to have your record wiped clean, so it's worth check-

Here's the ticket to save

In private lots, you might get leeway with parking tickets



Parking tickets are a huge frustration for your bank account.

ing this out in advance.

There is always the possibility that you may be able to negotiate a ticket. An argument that you can make is that the terms and conditions weren't clearly posted when you were parking, so you actually didn't know what you were yourself getting into. Another possible legal argument is that because the

fine on the ticket is so disproportionate to the lot's hourly charge, the contract should not be enforced.

We would encourage you to at least contact the parking lot company and put them on notice that you're disputing the ticket and attempt to negotiate something.

You never know whether or not you're going to be

successful but it's worth a try. Private lots can be individually owned so the amount of wiggle room you have will depend on the company. When dealing with customer service, be polite but persistent.

Just a few weeks ago, one of the Smart Cookies attempted to have a parking ticket reduced. At first, the private lot parking company was not receptive to her request. However, our Cookie was persistent and, lo and behold, the ticket price was reduced from \$60 to \$15. That's definitely worth a five-minute phone call.

Have a tip for the Smart Cookies? Email us at smartcookies@metronews.ca. Visit smartcookies.com or pick up Smart Cookies Guide to Making More Dough for more on saving and smart spending.

Tune in Monday nights at 10:30 p.m. EST/PST on the W Network and be sure to visit smartcookies.com for more tips.

Planning for your big day

A wedding could be one of the biggest costs a couple will face in their lifetime.

And in addition to the wedding day, many couples also find themselves shopping for a new home, adding to the financial stress. You can achieve these important life goals without going into debt by following a few easy steps.

Research the costs
Carefully research and compare the price of key items, such as the wedding dress, food and entertainment to help you determine the real cost of the overall day. You can then start to pick and choose what's most important to you and where you might be able to save a few bucks.

Plan for your savings
You can plan for how

you'll pay in two ways — by date or by dollar.

Planning by date allows you to determine how much you need to save to tie the knot at a set date. For example, if you are planning a wedding one year from now that will cost \$12,000, you will need to save \$1,000 per month.

If you are more flexible about when you get married, and know it may take you some time to accumulate the savings you need, you can set your wedding savings goal by dollar. Saving by setting a dollar amount tells you when you will be able to afford a \$12,000 wedding by saving on a regular basis. For example, if you can afford to save \$500 per month, your \$12,000 wedding day can

be booked for two years from now.

Let your savings grow

Now that you know the real costs and have determined how you'll save the money required, you'll need a place to put your savings. Your best bet is to open a high-interest savings account. Find one with no fees or minimum balances so that you keep every dollar you save. You may be surprised at how quickly your savings add up over time when you make regular contributions into an account with a high rate.

For more ways and tools to save for your wedding day and other important financial goals can be found online at getyourgoal.ca.

NEWS CANADA

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Allan Small
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your money **9**

Making the most of your severance

MoneyMatters



Henry Choo Chong
metronews.ca/moneymatters

Q My husband will be receiving a severance package. How much is he allowed to transfer to his registered retirement savings plan (RRSP), and do we have to report it? —**Mary**

A Severance payments received upon retirement due to loss of office or employment is reported as a retirement allowance the year received. Your husband should check with his human resources

department for the possibility of splitting the amounts over several years, to avoid overinflating income, which may result in higher taxes. Taxpayers who received payments and began employment before 1996 may be eligible to deduct an amount from income, if transferred into a pension

or RRSP. This rollover is above the normal annual RRSP contribute limit.

The maximum deduction (transfer) is the lesser of:

- The amount received, and;
- \$3,500 times the number of years prior to 1989, plus \$2,000 each year from

1989 to 1995.

He should work with human resources because they would have his employment history and should be able to calculate the eligible amount that can be transferred.

Henry Choo Chong, CGA, can be reached at choochonghcg@yahoo.ca.



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Sports

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONews.CA

Sports in brief

NBA Cleveland's Mike Brown has been selected as the NBA's Coach of the Year for the 2008-09 season. Brown received a total of 355 points, including 55 first-place votes out of a possible 122, from a panel of sportswriters and broadcasters throughout the United States and Canada. Houston's Rick Adelman finished second in the balloting with 151 points and 13 first-place votes. Orlando's Stan Van Gundy was next with 150 points.

BASKETBALL The Rochester RazorSharks are Premier Basketball League champions for the second straight year. The RazorSharks claimed the PBL title late Sunday night, lambasting the Battle Creek Knights 152-119 in the one-game championship final. League MVP Keith Friel paced Rochester with 28 points.

HOCKEY Spryfield's Troy Ryan has resigned as head coach and general manager of the junior A Pictou County Weeks Crushers. Ryan told the New Glasgow News he was weighing his options on where he'll coach next, but he could draw interest from the QMJHL or other junior A clubs.

METRO HALIFAX

SCOREBOARD

NHL
STANLEY CUP PLAYOFFS
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Boston 4 Montreal 2
Washington 4 N.Y. Rangers 0
Chicago at Calgary

TONIGHT'S GAMES
New Jersey at Carolina
Detroit at Columbus
Pittsburgh at Philadelphia
Vancouver at St. Louis
San Jose at Anaheim

NBA
PLAYOFFS
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Boston 118 Chicago 115
Dallas at San Antonio

TONIGHT'S GAMES
Detroit at Cleveland
Houston at Portland
Utah at L.A. Lakers

MLB
AMERICAN LEAGUE
EAST DIVISION
W L Pct GB
Toronto 10 4 .692
Boston 7 6 .538 2.5
New York 7 6 .538 2.5
Baltimore 6 7 .462 3.5
Tampa Bay 5 8 .385 4.5

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Boston 12 Baltimore 1
Pittsburgh 8 Florida 0
Oakland at N.Y. Yankees PPD
San Diego at Philadelphia PPD
Atlanta at Washington
Cincinnati at Houston
Colorado at Arizona

TONIGHT'S GAMES
Texas at Toronto
Kansas City at Cleveland
Oakland at N.Y. Yankees
Chicago White Sox at Baltimore
Minnesota at Boston
Detroit at L.A. Angels
Tampa Bay at Seattle
Florida at Pittsburgh
Milwaukee at Philadelphia
Atlanta at Washington
Cincinnati at Chicago Cubs
L.A. Dodgers at Houston
N.Y. Mets at St. Louis
Colorado at Arizona
San Diego at San Francisco

Bruins put Habs on ropes

STANLEY CUP 2009 Playoffs

Michael Ryder continues to haunt his former club, netting the game-winner late in the second period, as the Boston Bruins grabbed a stranglehold of their Eastern Conference quarterfinal series with a 4-2 win over the Montreal Canadiens last night.

Phil Kessel, Shawn Thornton and Chuck Kobasew also scored for the top-seeded Bruins, who have won the first three games of this best-of-seven series and will look to complete the sweep tomorrow night in Montreal.

Tim Thomas earned the victory with a 23-save effort for Boston, which has not



Saku Koivu of the Canadiens watches the puck go through the crease on a shot by P.J. Axelsson of the Bruins last night.

topped Montreal in a playoff series since 1994 and last swept the Habs in a four-game triumph in 1992.

Capitals 4 N.Y. Rangers 0
Alexander Semin tallied twice and Simeon Varlamov posted his first career

shutout in his second career playoff start, as the Washington Capitals downed the New York Rangers 4-0 in Game 3 of their Eastern Conference quarterfinal series at Madison Square Garden.

Brooks Laich and Tom Poti contributed power-play goals for the Capitals, who rebounded after dropping the first two games of the series at home.

Nicklas Backstrom added three assists and Alex Ovechkin posted a pair of helpers for Washington.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

For a recap of Game 3 of the Blackhawks/Flames series, visit metronews.ca

Allen caps Boston's big day with trey

NBA 2009 Playoffs

Ray Allen's three-pointer over Joakim Noah with two seconds remaining lifted the Boston Celtics to a 118-115 win over the Chicago Bulls in Game 2 of their Eastern Conference quarterfinal series.

The shot and the win helped save the series for

Eye exam

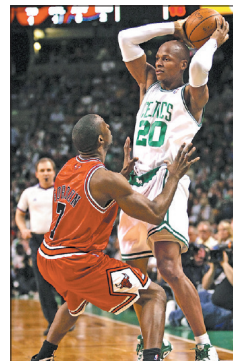
• Orlando Magic centre Dwight Howard says he's going to get his eyes examined after he was inadvertently scratched Sunday. Howard said yesterday he would see an eye doctor but that the injury won't keep him sidelined for Game 2 against the 76ers tomorrow.

Boston, which had lost Saturday's Game 1 in overtime and risked going in a 2-0 hole with the series moving to the Windy City. Now the matchup is tied at a game

apiece, with Game 3 scheduled for Thursday in Chicago. Allen finished with 30 points, shooting 6-for-10 from three-point range, as well as five assists and no turnovers. It was a remarkable performance considering he shot 1-for-12 in Game 1, ended with four points, and missed the potential game-saving shot at the end of overtime.

Chicago, seeded seventh in the East, nearly pulled off the huge coup of taking both games in Boston thanks to a 42-point effort from Ben Gordon.

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Ray Allen is guarded by the Bulls' Ben Gordon last night.

Lack of funds fells boxing show

MATTHEW WUEST
matthew.wuest@metronews.ca

An 11-fight boxing show that was supposed to take place on May 2 at the Metro Centre has been cancelled.

Standing 8 Productions, the group behind the event, told the Nova Scotia Boxing Authority last night that it was pulling the plug on A Night of Glory because it was unable to secure the funds necessary to pay officials and fill the prize purse.

NSBA chairman Mickey MacDonald said those

funds total "probably around \$100,000" and said he would have been forced to cancel the event anyway had his organization not received the money by today's deadline of 4 p.m.

"I am disappointed but I understand," said MacDonald.

"I know (Standing 8) was giving its best effort and it's disappointing for boxing that it's not able to take place."

Mike Bazan, a Standing 8 associate, said his group ended up more than \$200,000 short when it learned Friday a half dozen sponsors had backed out of

verbal agreements.

"It was us trusting people we were working with (in Halifax) to secure the funding from sponsors and it didn't work out," Bazan said. "We're not going to point fingers."

Bazan estimated that 1,500 tickets had been sold for the show and said his group isn't done with Halifax.

"Next time, we'll do things differently, and the community has to step up and help make it happen," he said.

Halifax resident Jason Naugler, originally from Hebbville, Lunenburg Co., had been scheduled to headline the event against David Whitcomb for the Canadian light-heavyweight crown. Jean-Paul Mendy and Abdullah Ramadan were to meet for the IBF intercontinental super-middleweight belt, and Halifax's Tyson Cave provided local star power.

Hip-hop recording artist Akon and actor/comedian Eddie Griffin were also scheduled to be on hand.

Raptors unlikely to trade Bosh: GM

NBA Toronto Raptors general manager Bryan Colangelo said that he has no intention of trading star forward Chris Bosh simply because Bosh can become a free agent after the 2009-10 season.

"I think it would be foolish to just simply decide today that today is the day we're going to trade him because there's a possibility that he might leave a year from now," Colangelo said yesterday. "Chris is still the best player on this team and thus will remain the cornerstone of the franchise until some other time when that decision is made."

Colangelo also praised the work of interim coach Jay Triano but stopped short of anointing him as the full-time coach. "He never stopped coaching, he never stopped preparing," Colangelo said of the Canadian Triano.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Haligonian places 42nd

BOSTON MARATHON Halifax native Rami Bardeesy turned in a 42nd-place finish in the 113th annual Boston Marathon yesterday.

Bardeesy, one of more than 100 participants from Nova Scotia, was sixth in the 40-and-older masters class with a time of 2:28:57, more than three minutes faster than last year.

Dartmouth's Denise Robson was the top Nova Scotian female and was second overall to Bardeesy. Robson, who holds the Canadian record for the top marathon time in the masters class, ran the 42.2-kilometre course in 2:48:15 to place 21st among all women and fifth in the 40-and-older category.

Colleen De Reuck of Boulder, Colo., was the No. 1 finisher in Robson's age group with a time of 2:35:37.

Robson edged out Harry Neynens of Enfield. Neynens, a former Blue Nose champion, was 447th in 2:49:50.

Leah Jabbour of Clayton Park was second among Nova Scotian females and 107th overall in 3:05:33.

METRO HALIFAX

Think before you drink

Brita encourages Canadians to get into the everyday routine of drinking tap water with the launch of the limited edition Green Pitcher water filtration system. Available at Wal-Mart, Loblaws, Zellers for \$34.99. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Health & Beauty

EDITOR: ANN-MARIE.COLACINO@METRONEWS.CA

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A greener sex life

LAURIE PAWLIK-KIENLEN
for Metro Canada

Here are five ways to make your sex life a little more eco-friendly.

1. Go green together

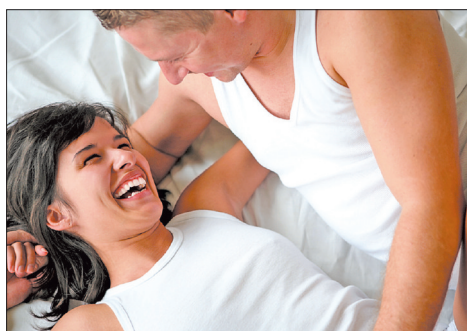
When an opportunity to try something new as a couple arises, whether it's choosing a massage oil or a new toy, go "au naturel." Greening your intimate life can strengthen your relationship by giving you a fun, healthy focus in the bedroom. Simply discussing greener possibilities can spark up your love life.

2. Consider your birth control

The Pill is a popular choice, but it's not a green one. "Whether from the Pill, the patch or hormone injections, synthetic estrogen makes its way into (our waterways) and has been shown to alter the apparent gender of fish," says Gillian Deacon in Green for Life. More eco-friendly birth control methods include the IUD and latex or lambskin condoms (thrown in the garbage afterwards, not flushed down the toilet).

3. Massage with natural oils

Numerous shops offer natural, organic massage oils



Opt for an eco-friendly intimate life by using bamboo sheets.

and lotions. One, Naked Soapworks on Bowen Island, B.C., makes bath and body products without artificial colours, stabilizers or preservatives. "Our Kama massage oil is scented with a blend of reputed aphrodisiacs, including rose, jasmine and ylang ylang," says Naked creator Laurel Bailey.

4. Bask in the light of beeswax, soy or vegetable candles

Make sure your lighting is both warm and clean. "The soot from paraffin candles can cause respiratory damage, scented candles are loaded with chemicals, and the wick is likely made with lead," writes Deacon in Green for Life. "Natural waxes burn longer, cleaner

and more evenly than paraffin, without putting oily soot into the air."

5. Frolic on organic bamboo sheets

Bedding can be healthy as well as sensuous. The experts at TreeHugger.com, a "green solutions" website, report that bamboo bedding is softer than cotton and drapes like silk. Bamboo wicks moisture away from your skin and comes from a renewable resource that is rapidly replenished.

Kenya'sStyle

Kenya Hunt

Read about skin products at metronews.ca/globalstyle

STOCK PHOTO

SCHIZOPHRENIA SOCIETY OF NOVA SCOTIA
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Join Our Five-Kilometre Walkathon
Road to Recovery: Supporting Families as Partners in Mental Health Care

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Oprah Winfrey has pulled a show focused on the 10th anniversary of the killings at Columbine High School, telling her Twitter followers she "thought it focused too much on killers" Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold. The talk show guru didn't elaborate on the decision. **POPEATER.COM**

Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONews.CA

A musical revolution

Demise of CDs having positive impact on the environment

IAN NATHANSON
for Metro Canada

If you're a music fan with a sizeable collection of compact discs, adding to that library is threatening to become a thing of the past.

At this very moment, we're knee-deep in the age of MP3 players and digital downloading. With digital album sales on a rise, somewhere in the three million range, sales of the once-mighty CD have been on a downward spiral for much of this decade. Estimates from Nielsen SoundScan show that CD sales have dropped to 428 million. The number of CDs sold in 2004, according to Rolling Stone magazine, was 667 million.

When the CD first rose to popularity in the 1980s, it boasted several advantages to its predecessor, the vinyl record. You could play it on multiple platforms — home stereo, computer, car stereo, portable CD players. More songs could be squeezed onto a CD. A slightly scuffed disc could still be played. Plus, there was a capability of skipping from one song to another on a CD (try finding a "shuffle" feature on a turntable).

Convenience factor and mass demand aside, the CD wasn't wholly accepted by the public.

Environmentalists and green-conscious artists also frowned upon the CD and its packaging. As the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) explains, the



disc itself is comprised of materials that include aluminum, polycarbonate plastic, lacquer, gold and petroleum-based dyes.

And the plastic jewel case, which houses the CD and its accompanying glossy booklet, was discovered to be non-biodegradable. Eco-friendly record label Earthology points out that when these cases are no longer needed, it either "sits ... in landfills or is incinerated, which releases dioxin into the atmosphere, one of the most toxic carcinogens on the planet." The cases themselves, Earthology continues, are

"made up of 85 grams of PolyVinyl Chloride (PVC). The production of these petrochemical plastics releases dangerous toxins into the atmosphere."

The music industry ultimately responded to the jewel-case uproar by packaging CDs in more environmentally friendly Digipaks, jewel case alternatives made of paperboard.

It's certainly a favourite among today's Canadian indie artists.

In the U.S., major-label Universal, for instance, manufactures CDs for Jack Johnson's Brushfire Records by using recyclable plastic CD trays. The lesser-known Earthology label use jewel cases made of 100 per cent recycled/reclaimed and use nontoxic soy inks. And Indi-



Madge appeals

A Supreme Court of Appeal panel will convene on May 4 to hear an appeal filed by Madonna against a Malawi High Court decision to stop her from adopting a Malawian girl. **PEOPLE.COM**



According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the compact disc is made up of aluminum, polycarbonate plastic, lacquer, gold and petroleum-based dyes.

anapolis-based Plastic Recycling Inc. actually recycles used CDs and jewel cases and ship these off to be transformed as auto parts.

The LP, limited a music medium as it is, at least is made of vinyl and housed in cardboard and paper sleeves — all recyclable. (For the, um, record, Rolling Stone reported that vinyl LP sales have surged upward

— to around the 1.9 million mark.)

But unless you're a hard-core audiophile, MP3 sound files benefit from the number that can be stored onto an MP3 player, a computer or what not. Plus, there isn't any known stat that an MP3 can spew harmful gases into the atmosphere. So it seems the planet is spared from any further harm.



For April 20th

Karl Wolf Ft Culture - Africa

Bow Wow - You Can Get It All

Classified - Anybody Listening

Flo Rida - Right Round

Bust Rhymes Ft T-Pain - Hustlers Anthem 2009

Lady Gaga - Lovegame

Britney Spears - If U Seek Amy

Flo Rida - Sugar

3OH!3 - Don't Trust Me

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HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
4/21/09	31	31	31	ABC News (N)	ABC World News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	According-Jim	According-Jim	Dancing With the Stars	Cupid (N)	
	7	7	7	ASN The Road to Avonlea	Instant Star	TMZ (N)		Reaper (HDTV) (N)		Dancing With the Stars	Without Trace	
	11	11	11	CBC Jeopardy! (N)	To Be Announced			NHL Hockey: Western Conference Quarterfinal Game 4 -- Canucks at Blues				
	2	2	2	CBC-F La Semaine verte (SC)	Virginie (SC)	La Facture		Beautés désempées (SC)		Les Galas 2007 du Festival	Le Téléjournal	
	32	32	32	CBS News (N)	The Insider (N)	Entertainment		Big Bang Th	Two/Half Men	NCIS "Murder 2.0"	The Mentalist	
	69	69	69	CFTM TVA 18 heures	Le Cercle (SC)	Qui perd gagne (SC)		La Fievre de la danse (SC)		Nos étés (HDTV)	TVA 22 heures	
	6	6	6	CHIF Entertainment	ET Canada	90210 (HDTV) (N)		NCIS "Murder 2.0"		Cold Blood (N)	News (N)	
	9	9	9	CJCH etalk	Hollywood	Law & Order: SVU		American Idol		(10:01) Fringe (N)	News (N)	
	10	10	10	ELTV (6) EastLink Television				Philip Riteman: Survivor		EastLink Television		
	12	12	12	FOX Deal-No Deal	The Simpsons	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	American Idol		(10:01) Fringe (N)	Fox First	
	16	16	16	NBC News	NBC News	Two/Half Men	Extra (N)	The Biggest Loser (N)			Law/Ord SVU	
	29	29	29	NW World News	Business	CBC News	Newman	Planet Earth		CBC News: The National	National	
	4	4	4	PBS-B NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Business	Greg Boston	La Plaza-Maria	Nova (HDTV) (DVS)		Frontline "Poisoned Waters" (N) (DVS)		
	35	35	35	PBS-D NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Business Rpt.	Worldfocus		Nova (HDTV) (DVS)		Journey to Planet Earth	Frontline (N)	
	68	68	68	TQS Rire et délire	Chemin du golf	Loft Story	Suite 309	Lipstick Jungle (SC)		Pushing Daisies (SC)	110 pour cent	
	23	23	23	BNN Business News	Headline	Market Call	Commodities	Worldopolis TV	Business News	Squeeze Play	Market Call	
	18	18	18	CNN Situation Room-Wolf Blitzer	Lou Dobbs Tonight			Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live (N)	Cooper 360	
	54	54	54	GOLF Golf Central	Top 10	Lessons	Inside PGA	The Approach	Bobby Jones: Stroke of Genius ** (2004, Biography)			
	52	52	52	RSE Hockey Central	Jays	MLB Baseball Minnesota Twins at Boston Red Sox	From Fenway Park in Boston.	Score Update		Score Update	Sportsnet Con.	
	55	55	55	SCOR Hockey Talk	Game On	Cobey Unlimit	Score Update	Score Update		Score Update	Score Tonight	
	45	45	45	SPD Unique Whips		Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Low Life	Low Life	Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	
	53	53	53	TSN Off the Record	SportsCentre	NHL Hockey: West Quarterfinal -- Red Wings at Blue Jackets		Low Life	Low Life	Super Bikes!	Super Bikes!	
	43	43	43	FAM Zoey 101	Life Derek	Wizards-Place	Han, Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	
	44	44	44	TOON Ben 10	Johnny Test	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	American Dad	
	26	26	26	TREE Ni Hao, Kai-lan	Big & Small (N)	Backyardigans	Night Grdn	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Maggie-Beast	
	27	27	27	YTV Drake & Josh	iCarly	Adrenaline Proj	Survive This	Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Family Biz	Prank Patrol	
	16	16	16	A&E Cold Case Files (HDTV)		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		The First 48 "Blissided"		The First 48 (HDTV)	Manhunters	
	70	70	70	APTN News (N)	Wings-Canada	Storytellers		Wapos Bay	Cashing In	Fish Out	Mixed Blessing	
	50	50	50	BET 106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live (Live)		Deep Blue Sea ** (1999, Science Fiction) Thomas Jane.						
	37	37	37	BRVO Street Legal	In the Shadow of the Blues			Live at the Rehearsal Hall		Liza With a Z: Concert	Bravonews	
	25	25	25	CMT Cross Canada Countdown		Home Improve.		Home Improve.		Reba	Hope & Faith	
	49	49	49	COM Laughs	Comedy Now	World's Wildest Police Videos		Corner Gas		The Simpsons	South Park	
	153	153	153	COURT Killer Next Door		Daily Planet (N)		Cops Uncut	Dumb Criminal	Killer Forensics	Police Videos	
	38	38	38	DISC Destroyed	Destroyed	House Hunters	Property Virgin	How It's Made	How It's Made	Destroyed	Time Warp (N)	
	34	34	34	HGTV Holmes-Homes	Holmes-Homes	NCIS "Requiem"		HGTV's Top 10	Dirty Business	SarahCottage	Design Inc.	
	46	46	46	HIST Crime Stories		Instant Star	Instant Star	Sandhogs "3745 Feet"		Crime Stories	NCIS	
	17	17	17	MM CollegeHmr	Video on Trial	The O.C.		Instant Star	Instant Star	CollegeHmr	Video on Trial	
	19	19	19	MMM mmtop10.ca		The Daily Fix		Ranked!		Hogan Knows	Hogan Knows	
	201	201	201	M1 (6) Slipstream (2007)		(7:55) Becoming Jane ** (2007, Biography)		Sex and the City *** (2008)				
	48	48	48	OLN The Amazing Race 7	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter		Departures "Cambodia"		Mantracker "Buck & RJ"	Bounty Hunter	
	51	51	51	PEACH Seinfeld	Friends	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	House-Payne	Disclosure *** (1994, Suspense)		
	206	206	206	PIX (6:10) For Your Eyes Only (1981)		(8:20) Scream of Stone (1991, Drama)		Lucky Numbers * (2000, Comedy)				
	67	67	67	RDI RDI en direct	RDI en direct	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)	RDI en direct	
	39	39	39	SHOW Wife Swap		The Outer Limits		Mutant X		Testees	Trailer Park	
	40	40	40	SLICE The Mom Show		Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	Rich Poor	Rich Poor	Rich Bride, Poor Bride	Rich Poor	
	47	47	47	SPACE Stargate SG-1		Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Torchwood	Super Heroes	
	14	14	14	SPICE CSI: NY "Hush" (HDTV)		CSI: Crime Scene Investg.		CSI: Crime Scene Investg.		UFC Unleashed	Warrior	
	98	98	98	STAR etalk	Hollywood	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		etalk		Look-A-Like	Look-A-Like	
	21	21	21	TLC What Not to Wear		Pregnant for 46 Years		I Didn't Know I Was Pregnant		I Didn't Know I Was Pregnant	Know-Pregnant	
	34	34	34	TROP What Happen?	What Happen?	Vanity Insanity	Tube Tales	Tube Tales	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Family Guy	
	20	20	20	TVS Que-champion	Journal de Fr2	Survivre "L'Orange-outan"		Pekin express: la route des Incas		Santa Cruz-Sucre	Plage	
	28	28	28	V Doc "Time Files"		Murder, She Wrote		Chambers	Quantum Leap	Quantum Leap	I Prophesy	
	60	60	60	VIVA Mysterious Ways		Judging Amy		Missing "Puzzle Box"		Missing A pop star disappears.	Encounters	
	22	22	22	W Style by Jury	Style by Jury	Will & Grace	Friends	Remedy Me	Keep Real	Style by Jury	Naked Beauty	
	251	251	251	WGN Be-Millionaire	Evening News	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	MLB Baseball Cincinnati Reds at Chicago Cubs. (HDTV) (Live)				

critics' corner

Saving Grace

When Grace (Holly Hunter) learns that her widowed brother-in-law, Doug (Chris Mulkey), is dating the new bartender at Louie's, she wonders how his son, Clay (Dylan Minnette), will take it — especially since they're talking about moving away. The murder of a young jogger has the squad revisiting similar past cases. Leon (Bokeem Woodbine) gets a blast from his past in the new episode "But There's Clay." 11 PM on SHOW



Long John Baldry: In the Shadow of the Blues

Illustrating that good music has no boundaries or ethnic lines, British guitarist Long John Baldry took his love of the blues back across the pond. This documentary tells the tale of the founder of Steampacket, who took both Rod Stewart and Elton John under his wing. Interviews with Stewart and John accompany performance footage of Baldry. 8 PM on BRAVO

Deadliest Catch

As the hit reality series returns for a new season, there's more white-knuckle seafaring in store as the crews of the fishing boats Time Bandit, Cornelia Marie, Wizard and Northwestern compete to pull in the biggest catches of Alaskan king crab, with a \$4,000 jackpot at stake for the winning crew. 11 PM on DISCOVERY

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Grey's Anatomy star Ellen Pompeo and her husband, Chris Ivery, are starting a family together, her rep, Jennifer Allen, confirms to people.com "It's great news," says Allen. "They're ecstatic." **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Ellen's new family

Celebrity Buzz

Rupert denies having work done

IMAGE Rupert Everett has vehemently denied accusations he has undergone cosmetic surgery — following a string of Internet rumours suggesting he had a facelift, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

A picture of the actor looking noticeably fresh-faced and wrinkle-free surfaced online earlier last week following the star's recent appearance on Rachael Ray's TV show.

The image

has fuelled speculation that Everett, 49, has resorted to drastic measures in a bid to gain a more youthful appearance. But a spokesman for the star is adamant he has not undergone any cosmetic procedures.

The rep tells British newspaper the Daily Mail, "Why would Rupert need any surgery? He's a beautiful man. Any speculation is completely laughable. He hasn't had anything done and he doesn't need it."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

A-list crowd celebrates Kate's 30th

PARTYING Kate Hudson, whose actual 30th birthday was Sunday, bid farewell to her 20s with a star-studded blowout birthday bash Friday night in Pacific Palisades, Calif.

Noticeably absent? Owen Wilson, the actress' on-again-off-again beau.

Not that the party — at the home of Hudson's mom, Goldie Hawn, 63, and her partner Kurt Russell, 58 — lacked for a jaw-dropping roster of A-List guests, including Demi Moore, Ashton Kutcher, Justin Timberlake

(though without girlfriend Jessica Biel), Matthew McConaughey, Tobey Maguire, Jessica Alba, Cash Warren, Gwyneth Paltrow and husband Chris Martin, Gwen Stefani, Eva Mendes, Adam Sandler, Zach Braff — even Cher.

"Kate was elated, dancing all night, having the time of her life — and she looked amazing in a very sexy little dress and (Christian) Louboutin heels," a source tells People. "She gave a very touching speech and spoke about how important her family is to her."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Teri makes Nicollette a farewell gift

FINAL CURTAIN Nicollette Sheridan's character Edie Brit finally bit the bullet on Sunday's Desperate Housewives. Her death took place in the first few minutes of the episode: She was driving home and crashed into a utility pole.

While she may have left Wisteria Lane, Sheridan did not leave empty handed. Teri Hatcher made Sheridan a scrapbook before she left, usmagazine reports. "I pulled pictures from all the different sea-

sons and magazine articles and quotes, shots from the awards — everything we've all done together over the five years," she said.

Sheridan recently complained to TV Guide that she felt creator Marc Cherry ignored her on the show and that that was one of the reasons why she was leaving. But co-star Dana Delany tells Us, "You know, it's a huge cast. It's easy to say that, but I think she had as much screen time as anybody else did."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Diana slept her way to the top: Book

ACCUSATIONS According to a new unauthorized biography, Diana Ross rose to fame by sleeping her way to the top at Motown Records. "The Diana Ross few knew outside of the Motown colony was on a fast track to rise to the top from the first day she got to Motown; not incidentally, that was also the first day she knew who she wanted to sleep with to keep up the momentum," Mark Ribowsky writes in The Supremes: A Saga of Motown Dreams, Success and Betrayal, which will be released in July, according to Page Six. Ross' rep had no comment.

METRO WORLD NEWS

Mel heads to church

GOOD BEHAVIOUR Mel Gibson, who spent last week in Costa Rica following news of his pending divorce, traded his beach clothes for a suit and tie so he could attend his private church in Malibu, Calif. on Sunday, people.com reports.

"He was drinking coffee with church guests and seemed very relaxed," a church-goer said about Gibson, who mingled with the other con-

gregants for about an hour after mass.

Before Sunday, the actor-filmmaker was spotted near his sprawling estate in Costa Rica just days after his wife Robyn filed for divorce after 28 years of marriage.

Gibson, 53, has been recently linked to Russian musician Oksana Grigorieva, 39. The ac-

tor, who appeared to be on vacation, was not alone. He was spotted with a blonde-haired woman, a man in his 20s and a young boy who never left his side, said a witness. Grigorieva was not seen on their outings.

"(He) went to eat ice cream and then he went shopping," said José Morales, an employee at a car-rental agency, who spotted the group last week.

The visitors ordered espresso and double-scoops of ice cream before Gibson spent more than \$500 US on souvenirs, which included wooden bowls and potholders, says another witness.

On Saturday, Gibson left Costa Rica. He was seen Sunday attending 9 a.m. mass at the Church of the Holy Family, hidden in the tree-covered mountains outside of Los Angeles.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Is newly single Jen reviving her TIFF fling with Gerard?

SPECULATION It seems that Jennifer Aniston isn't hanging around after splitting from John Mayer for the umpteenth time as she is reportedly romancing Gerard Butler, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The former Friends star broke up with Mayer last month after a tumultuous on/off relationship.

The actress approached Butler to star alongside her in forthcoming movie The Gorie Girls — and their working partnership could become something more after the pair enjoyed a short-lived romance last year, according to Britain's Mail on Sunday newspaper.

"They had a fling at the Toronto Film Festival last year but it was all kept very quiet," a source tells the publication. "Now Jennifer's single again, she's no longer

keeping her admiration for him secret."

Aniston and Mayer have dated on and off since April 2008. But Aniston and Butler sparked romance rumours at the Toronto International Film Festival in September.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Lindsay's 'back on men' with a vengeance

REBOUND Lindsay Lohan is "back on men" and left a Las Vegas party with a mystery male on Saturday, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The actress, who was recently dumped by DJ Samantha Ronson following a year-long romance, was seen flirting with the unnamed hunk at Planet Hollywood Resort and Casino in Las Vegas — the venue for the after-party for Mel B's new burlesque show Peepshow. A source said: "Lindsay had a brilliant time watching Peepshow and was cheering and clapping throughout."

"At the after-party she focused her attentions on a good looking young guy and the pair were quickly introduced. After swapping numbers they were texting throughout — from opposite sides of the swimming pool." Lohan and her new friend hit it off so well they left the event together and reportedly

ended up at the actress' lavish hotel room.

The source added to Britain's Daily Mirror newspaper: "They went on to a comedy club before returning to Lindsay's penthouse suite. It had a hot tub and a marble cocktail bar — Lindsay was joking about making the most of all the facilities."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Will Naomi settle down in Moscow?

RELOCATION Naomi Campbell is reportedly planning to move to Russia to set up home with her billionaire boyfriend. The beauty has been dating Vladislav Doronin since May and divides her time between her homes in London and New York.

But Campbell wants to settle down with Doronin and plans to make Moscow her new base, according to Britain's Mail On Sunday.

A friend of the model tells the publication, "Naomi and Vladislav are inseparable and she has been spending more and more time in Moscow."



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Amy's only just heard about Blake

BREAKUP BLUES While news broke last week that her estranged husband, Blake Fielder-Civil, had allegedly impregnated another woman, Amy Winehouse didn't learn of it until just now because she was in a hospital in St. Lucia after collapsing from a three-day drinking binge, according to News of the World.

"Blake's got a new life away from me now, it's not anything to do with me," Winehouse was reportedly heard saying through tears. "That better be a mistake or I'll beat his head in."



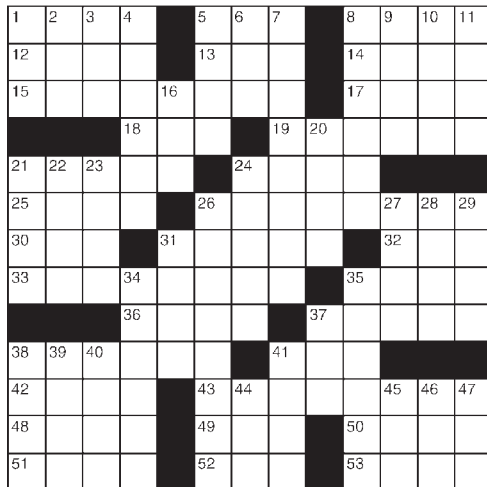
METRO WORLD NEWS

Bill hits bystander with golf ball

RESTITUTION Bill Murray got off easy when he accidentally walloped a woman with a wild shot during a golf tournament. Gayle DiMaggio was hit in the left temple by Murray's wayward ball as she stood watching the game, according to the Huffington Post. While she didn't lose consciousness, she did need stitches. When asked what Murray could do to make it up to her, DiMaggio had but one request: an autographed DVD of Caddyshack.



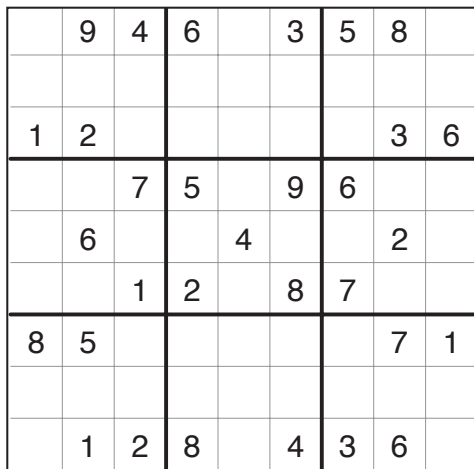
METRO WORLD NEWS

For more delicious Metro recipes, visit: metronews.ca/food

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



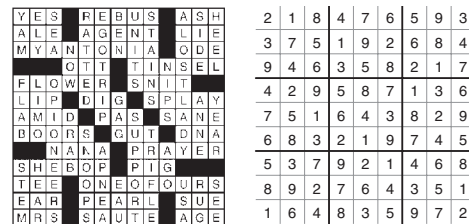
Crossword across

- 1 Did some weeding
- 5 Cudgel
- 8 "National Treasure" actor
- 12 Roundish hairdo
- 13 Inventor Whitney
- 14 Rainbow
- 15 Just lie there
- 17 Gridlock elements
- 18 Deity
- 19 Within one's power
- 21 Xbox enthusiast
- 24 Crow or crane
- 25 "Metamorphoses" poet
- 26 Military headquarters
- 30 Automaton, for short
- 31 Leans to one side
- 32 Singer DiFranco
- 33 Cameo's opposite
- 35 Shell-less snail
- 36 Mah-jong piece
- 37 Tether
- 38 "— Preacher Man"
- 41 Vast expanse
- 42 Related (to)
- 43 Hamburger's hello
- 48 1492 vessel
- 49 Greek vowel
- 50 Pop choice
- 51 Carina
- 52 Tatter
- 53 Basin accessory

Crossword down

- 1 Owns
- 2 Frequently
- 3 Mound stat
- 4 Followed relentlessly
- 5 Rosary component
- 6 Elev.
- 7 Included as a part of
- 8 Locust
- 9 Speedy steed
- 10 "You go, —!"
- 11 Being, to Brutus
- 16 Neither mate
- 20 Table scraps
- 21 Asian desert
- 22 Shakespeare's river
- 23 Catcher's prop
- 24 Prove untrue
- 26 Pirate
- 27 Festive
- 28 Responsibility
- 29 At hand
- 31 Workweek's end initials
- 34 Lacking a musical key
- 35 Rap session?
- 37 Director Spike
- 38 Foundered
- 39 "Grapes of Wrath" type
- 40 Baseball team
- 41 Unescorted
- 44 Actress Hagen
- 45 AAA job
- 46 Hearty quaff
- 47 Needlefish

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

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SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:

- Under 13 min Genius
13-17 min Scholar
17-21 min Smart
21-25 min Not bad
25+ min Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day



Herb and Saffron Risotto

INGREDIENTS:

- 1 tbsp (15 ml) butter
- 1 tbsp (15 ml) extra-virgin olive oil
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 3/4 cups (425 ml) risotto rice
- 2/3 cup (150 ml) dry white wine
- Small pinch saffron strands
- 1 3/4 qt (1.75 L) vegetable stock, hot
- Fresh-grated zest of 1 lemon
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) lemon juice
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) snipped fresh chives
- 2 tbsp (25 ml) chopped parsley
- Salt and fresh-ground black pepper

TO SERVE:

- 1/2 oz (14 g) piece Parmesan cheese
- Snipped fresh chives

METHOD:

1. Melt butter with oil in large pot over medium heat. Add onion and sauté until soft, stirring occasionally, 4 to 5 minutes.
2. Add rice and stir 1 min-

ute. Stir in wine and boil until almost evaporated. 3. Stir saffron into hot stock. Add ladleful of stock to pot and slowly boil until absorbed, stirring frequently. Continue adding stock ladlefuls, letting each be almost absorbed before adding next, and stirring frequently. Total cooking time: 15 to 20 minutes. Risotto is ready when rice is tender but grains are still whole and firm, and overall texture is moist and creamy. 4. Remove pot from heat and stir in lemon zest and juice, chives and parsley. Season with salt and pepper to taste. 5. Using vegetable peeler, pare thin shavings from Parmesan and scatter over risotto together with chives.

SERVES 6

rd.ca

For nutritional information on this and other great recipes, go to rd.ca or check out Key Ingredients in this month's Reader's Digest, on newsstands now!



Horoscopes

ARIES

MARCH 21-APRIL 20

Keep your sense of humour alive. A sad bid for lenience will fail. You won't want to resolve a disturbance.



TAURUS

APRIL 21-MAY 21

A message will weaken your resistance. You'll find that insecurity has its rewards. A buddy shares his awareness of the facts.



LIBRA

SEPT 23-OCT 23

A foreigner inspires a happy moment. Focus your energy on warmth and tenderness. You shouldn't know about certain troubles.



SCORPIO

OCT 24-NOV 22

A rule-breaker creates an excellent state of affairs. An irrational scheme shouldn't be shared. You will have second thoughts.



GEMINI

MAY 22-JUNE 21

Enjoy your freedom with a clear mind. Brush up on protocol before visiting a superior person. Good luck will be celebrated by a family.



SAGITTARIUS

NOV 23-DEC 21

You'll be magnanimous with outsiders. A craving for faithfulness creates discord. Weird noises cause a ridiculous ego clash.



CANCER

JUNE 22-JULY 22

A dignified person wins over a loser. Climb out of a comfy rut if you want to get ahead. An opponent makes lousy decisions.



CAPRICORN

DEC 22-JAN 20

An elder inadvertently helps a bad guy. Glad tidings make dreams come true. A wonderful fantasy causes a revolution.



LEO

JULY 23-AUG 23

A concerned friend will speak carefully. Don't bore yourself by brooding. You'll waste time with the wrong people.



AQUARIUS

JAN 21-FEB 18

You'll smile at an unexpected moment. An admirer is interested in your goals. Your motivation becomes strong and mighty.



VIRGO

AUG 24-SEPT 22

A shy person has an unshakable defence system. A needy guy gets a boost by a great job offer. Be ready to give something away.



PISCES

FEB 19-MARCH 20

A senior's warning goes unheeded. A parent has an earthshaking surprise. A younger person's influence will please you.



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WORDY GURDY

BY TRUCKY RICKY KANE

1. CNN host Lou blubbers (1)
2. Heap up bathroom floor material (1)
3. Hammerhead on a biblical boat (1)
4. Tin or gold plant with stickers (2)
5. Truck rental company's motorless planes (2)
6. Somewhat unusually (2)
7. Pink Floyd's Syd's orange vegetables (2)

Answers: 1. LOU LUBBERS 2. PILE-UP 3. HAMMERHEAD 4. TINSNAIL 5. PLANE 6. UNUSUALLY 7. CARROTS

This day in history

APRIL 21, 753 BC: Romulus and Remus found Rome.
APRIL 21, 1509: Henry VIII ascends the throne of England (unofficially) at the death of his father, Henry VII.
APRIL 21, 1918: German fighter ace Manfred von Richthofen (The Red Baron) is shot down and killed.
APRIL 21, 1944: Women in France receive the right to vote.
APRIL 21, 1982: Rollie Fingers of the Milwaukee Brewers becomes the first pitcher to record 300 saves.
APRIL 21, 1994: The first discoveries of extrasolar planets announced by astronomer Alexander Wolszczan.

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